e-bulletin

————————Timeline————

Key items & events

Legislative update

On Feb.19 the House passed House Bill 1022, as amended by the House Appropriations Committee. While $20 million is still appropriated for ConnectND funding, the amendment includes spending $3.6 million from the state general fund to pay for what is considered to be general state government's share of the project, and gives the North Dakota University System the authority to bond up to $16.4. This engrossed (amended) version of House Bill No. 1022 was scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee on Thursday, Feb. 27.

The 2003-05 Governor's budget had recommended bonding the entire $20 million for the ConnectND project. In addition, in their January testimony, university system officials had requested that the Appropriations Committee consider another $3.2 million in state general funds for the project to cover the University System's share of the projected 2003-05 costs, thereby allowing the State Board of Higher Education to discontinue the student fee currently in place to cover these costs.

In related action, the House approved an amendment to HB 1022 asking that the 2003-05 biennium general fund appropriations for information technology expenditures included in agency and institution appropriation bills be reduced by a total of $12,760,136. The savings are to be realized from information technology efficiencies and the elimination of duplicative programs, including personnel savings and savings relating to the purchase of software, information technology equipment, and contractual services for information technology development projects. Specific agency and institution reductions are to be identified throughout the remainder of the legislative session. Of course, this could all be changed by legislators before the sessions ends.

What is the current status of the ConnectND project?

In its February 21, 2003, report, the Project Oversight team reported:

· The overall project is on time and on budget, most open issues have been resolved;
· While there is a good probability that most of the project deliverables will meet dates - some schedule, resource or scope changes may be needed at this time;
· There are no scope issues at this time; and
· There are currently no risks impeding the project at this time.

How is ConnectND being implemented?

Under the leadership of a State Executive Steering Committee (co-chaired by Donna Thigpen, President, Bismarck State College and Pam Sharp, Interim Director, Office of Management and Budget) and with the help of our implementation partner, *MAXIMUS,* the project is being implemented using a five-phased approach:

1. Initiation – Complete
2. Design – 99% complete
3. Development – Through 3/15/03
4. Migration – 10/7/02/ to 5/15/03
5. Post Production – 10/7/02 to 8/29/03

When will ConnectND be implemented?

See article: *Initial ConnectND rollout schedules are released*

Has end-user training been scheduled?

End-user training is being scheduled using a just-in-time approach. For more information on general state government training, see article: *2nd Communication letter goes to state agency heads.*

March ConnectND IVN updates
· Thursday, Mar 6th (9-9:50 a.m.)
· Thursday, Mar 20th (9-9:50 a.m.)

Everyone is invited to attend the IVN update sessions. Specific locations are indicated on the calendar.

Can't make IVN meeting dates?
The IVN sessions are captured and recorded through webstreaming. Use the video archive to view a missed session at a later date.

Comments and suggestions regarding this publication are welcome. We encourage questions about this newsletter or the project. To facilitate this process, you may ask a question electronically through the website FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) section. It's also a place to view the questions others have asked and the responses of the project teams.

March 2003

Words & acronyms

ERP— "Enterprise Resource Planning" System or "Enterprise Resource Package." Essentially, it means an administrative software system that covers the entire enterprise – from students to employees to financial management. While our current administrative systems (commonly known as SAMIS or CICS) were developed long before "ERP" was even thought of, they are essentially our ERP today.

Web-streamed—Recorded live and broadcast real-time via the Internet to those who cannot be at the event location.

About ConnectND

What is ConnectND?

The CONNECT ND project is the implementation of *PeopleSoft's* ERP system that will replace North Dakota's current administrative computer systems. The ERP system will serve as the administrative systems for the entire enterprise – from students to employees to financial management.

Who is involved in ConnectND?

All of North Dakota State Government, including the North Dakota University System, is involved this project.

How is the ConnectND project organized?

The project has been organized by module (functional area) into three state groups (Financial, Human Resources Management System, and Technical) and four higher education groups (Financial, Human Resources Management System, Student Administration, and Technical).

2nd communication letter goes to state agency heads

A second letter has been sent to state agency heads outlining the progress of the state's ConnectND teams since November 2002. Preparations are moving forward, on schedule, toward an April implementation of general government's human resource management system, to include central payroll, core human resource functions, and benefits. This implementation will serve more than 70 state agencies and nearly 10,000 employees.

At the same time, the Office of Management and Budget, the state's pilot site, will implement the accounts payable, general ledger, purchasing, and grants and project costing components of ConnectND. The Attorney General's Office, Human Services, and the Highway Patrol have been asked to assist OMB with the purchasing pilot.

Approximately 110 primary users of the new systems have been identified and will complete training classes in March and April for this phase of the new ConnectND system. The training will be conducted by personnel from MAXIMUS, the company that is partnering with the state to design, develop and implement ConnectND, and by Subject Matter Experts from several state agencies.

The November letter contained background and contact information related to the state's side of the ConnectND project.

Links mentioned

• **Calendar:** www.nodak.edu/connectnd index.php?module=PostCalendar

• **Communication Letters to State Agency Heads:**
February 2003: http://www.nodak.edu/connectnd/repository/news/communication-letterFeb2003.pdf

November 2002: http://www.nodak.edu/connectnd/repository/design/StGovProjProg-11-22-02.pdf

• **ConnectND:**
http://www.nodak.edu/connectnd/

• **House Bill 1022:** http://www.state.nd.us/lr/assembly/58-2003/bill_actions BA1022.html

• **MAXIMUS:**
http://www.maximus.com/public/virtual/home

• **North Dakota University System**
http://www.ndus.nodak.edu

• **PeopleSoft:**
http://www.peoplesoft.com/corp/en/public_index.asp

• **Rollout Schedules**
http://www.nodak.edu/connectnd/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=57

• **State of North Dakota**
http://discovernd.net/

• **Video archive:** http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/connectndmodules.php?op=modload&name=Downloads&file=index

• **Web-streamed:** http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/connectnd/repository/development/CalendarEscalation.pdf

Initial ConnectND rollout schedules are released

Project Team managers have finalized initial rollout schedules for state agencies and higher education institutions. However, these schedules are subject to change as we work through implementation specifics within the state agency (OMB, Attorney General's Office, Highway Patrol, and Department of Human Services) and higher education (Mayville State University and Valley City State University) pilot sites. These schedules are organized according to the three major functional areas of the project: Student Administration, Financials, and Human Resources. In addition, the schedule contains the current status of the Portal implementation.

February 28, 2003
(TBD = To be Determined)

Initial ConnectND Implementation Rollout Schedules*

	North Dakota University System			State Government			
	MaSU / VCSU	Board Office	BSC / DSU / LRSC / MiSU / MiSU-Bot / NDSCS/ NDSU / UND / WSC	OMB	Attorney General Human Services Highway Patrol	Other Agencies	Bank of North Dakota
Student Administration (Campus Community)*							
Recruitment & Admissions	2002 - Oct 7	N/A	2003 - July - Dec	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Financial Aid	2003 - Apr 15 - June 13	N/A	2004 - Mar - June	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Student Records	2003 - May 19 - 30	N/A	2004 - Mar - June	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Student Financials	2003 - June 2 - 13	N/A	2004 - Mar - June	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Financials*							
Accounts Payable	2003 - Apr 1-6	2003 - July 1	2004 - Jan - June	2003 - Apr	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	TBD
General Ledger	2003 - Apr 1-6	2003 - July 1	2004 - Jan - June	2003 - Apr	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	TBD
Purchasing	2003 - Apr 1-6	2003 - July 1	2004 - Jan - June	2003 - Apr	2003 - Apr	2004 - Jan - June	TBD
Grants Management / Project Cost	2003 - Apr 2-5	2003 - July 1	2004 - Jan - June	2003 - Apr	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	TBD
Accounts Receivable / Billing	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	TBD
Asset Management	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	TBD
Inventory	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	TBD
e-Procurement	2004 - Apr - Sept	2004 - Apr - Sept	2004 - Apr - Sept	2004 - Apr - Sept	2004 - Apr - Sept	2004 - Apr - Sept	TBD
Budgets	2004 - Apr - Sept	2004 - Apr - Sept	2004 - Apr - Sept	2004 - Apr - Sept	2004 - Apr - Sept	2004 - Apr - Sept	TBD
Human Resource Mgmt System*							
Core Human Resources	2003 - Apr 7-11	2003 - Apr 7-11	2004 - Jan - June	2003 - Apr	2003 - Apr	2003 - Apr	2003 - Aug
Benefits	2003 - Apr 7-11	2003 - Apr 7-11	2004 - Jan - June	2003 - Apr	2003 - Apr	2003 - Apr	2003 - Aug
Flexible Spending Accounts	2003 - N/A; outsourcing	2003 - N/A; outsourcing	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan	2004 - Jan	2004 - Jan	2004 - Jan
Payroll	2003 - Apr 7-11	2003 - Apr 7-11	2004 - Jan - June	2003 - Apr	2003 - Apr	2003 - Apr	2003 - Aug
Time & Labor	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan-June	2004 - Jan-June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June	2004 - Jan - June
Benefits Administration	2004 - Apr - Sept	2004 - Apr-Sept	2004 - Apr-Sept	2003 - Oct - Dec	2003 - Oct - Dec	2003 - Oct - Dec	2003 - Oct - Dec
Portal*	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

*All timeframes are based on a calendar-year and are subject to change. Each implementation is preceeded by 30 to 60-day testing and training period and followed by a 90-day post production period. During the post production period, implementation issues are resolved and incorporated into the system; if implementation issues cannot be resolved in that timeframe, delays in subsequent implementation may occur.